

## **Martina Edwards Bio**



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Martina Edwards is the President & CEO for ACE | Access to Capital for Entrepreneurs – the largest exclusively small business focused CDFI in the state of Georgia, providing capital, coaching, and connections to underserved entrepreneurs.

Martina Edwards has 25 years of experience as a business professional and nonprofit leader, including work in fundraising, strategic partnerships and relationship management. Before being named President and CEO of ACE, Edwards spent six years as ACE's Chief of Strategic Partnerships. In this role, Edwards worked with ACE's Fund Development team to raise more than \$57 million in grants, significantly boosting the organization's visibility and impact. Prior to joining ACE, Edwards was a New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) Equity Trader for Merrill Lynch, the first African American female stockbroker for the company in its 200+ year history; Vice President of Corporate Partnerships at Points of Light in Atlanta; Senior Director of Alternative Investments for Sponsors for Educational Opportunity in New York City; Interim Executive Director and Director of Finance for Kaplan Higher Education College in Maryland; and Private Client Manager at US Trust.

Edwards is a Leadership Council member for Junior Achievement of Georgia and Advisory Board member for Zane Venture Fund – a first-time fund investing in early-stage companies in the Southeast with diverse founding teams. She also serves on various boards and committees, including GA Social Impact Collaborative (GSIC) as a CDFI Task Force member; GoATL Economic Inclusion Investment Committee; Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) Board of Directors; and Black Executive Leadership Team Community Advisory Council – Bank of America.

Edwards is an Atlanta Business Chronicle 2022 Women of Influence Honoree, recipient of the Atlanta Tuskegee Alumni Chapter 2019 Pioneer Award, the 2018 Atlanta's Women of Distinction Non-Profit Sector Award, a 2017 Fellow of New Leaders Council Atlanta, and member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. She earned a B.S. in Finance from Tuskegee University and an MBA from UNC, Kenan-Flagler Business School, where she completed an exchange program at the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa and global immersion programs in India and Mexico. She is also a mother of two energetic boys and keeps it all together with the support of her spouse.



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